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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KIMNHUNG T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2677

DATE MAILED: 03/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/873,293

Applicant(s)

SHIGETA, KAZUYUKI

Examiner

Kimnhung Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE and Amendment filed on 1/30/06.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 31 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/30/06 has been entered.

Elections/Restrictions

2. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C 121 and 372.

3. Newly submitted claim 31 is directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: The limitation “ A first signal source communicating with a display for displaying a signal from said first signal source in a first display window out of a plurality of display windows on a single screen displaying a signal, from a second signal source communicating with the display, in a second display window out of the plurality of windows, the second display window being different from the first display window” is directed to different embodiment, would require additional search and/or consideration

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claim 31 is withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

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4. This Application has been examined. The claims 1-30 are pending. The examination results are as following.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beaudin et al. (US 5,367,318).

Regarding claims 1, Beaudin et al. discloses in figures 1, 5, a display control device (control processor 34) for controlling a display to display, on a single screen (50, fig. 5), a plurality of pictures (current, old, tissue, flow, fig. 5), which are from a respective plurality of signal sources (12, 20, fig. 1) connected to signal lines, wherein the plurality of pictures are displayed in a respective plurality of display windows (50A-50D) on the screen (50), the display control device (34) comprising:

an attributes information memory (16), which stores display attributes information (see display image contain scale level or selected size, see col. 5, lines 25-32, and col. 5, lines 60-63) for each of the plurality of display windows on the single screen (col. 12, lines 21-29);

and a notification unit (V, and H switch 93, 95, fig. 4), which for each of the plurality of signal sources (12) notifies that signal source of the stored display attributes information corresponding to the display window in which the picture from that signal source is displayed (see col. 12, lines 21-28),

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wherein the plurality of signal sources (12, 20) are separate apparatuses (see abstract, see col. 6, lines 16-19).

Regarding claim 2, Beaudin et al. discloses further, the display attributes information is changed to a setting of a display windows (see fig. 1, 5, see col. 5, lines 60-63).

Regarding claims 3, 8, 10, 13-14, Beaudin et al. discloses further in fig. 4, wherein a notification (V, H, fig. 4) by the notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in a inputted picture signal (fig. 5).

Regarding claim 4, Beaudin et al. discloses the notification is performed synchronously with at least a change in attributes of a signal on the network (see fig. 4).

Regarding claims 5-8, and 19-26, Beaudin et al. discloses the notification by notification unit (H, V switch) is performed synchronously with a change in the size, usage on the screen (see figure 5, see col. 5, lines 60-65), and also change in content of inputted picture (see fig. 5).

Regarding claim 9, Beaudin et al. discloses in fig. 1 and 5, a display control device for controlling a display to display on a single screen (50), a plurality of pictures (current, old, tissue, flow), which are from a respective plurality of signal sources (12, 20) connected to signal lines, I wherein the plurality of pictures are displayed in a respective plurality of display windows on the single screen (50), said display control device comprising:

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an obtaining unit (16), which obtains identification signal relating to the plurality of pictures from the plurality of signal sources (12, 20);

a display selection information creating unit (22), which creates display selection information based on the obtained identification signals;

a display selection (28), which appropriates each of the plurality of pictures to a respectively corresponding one of the plurality of display windows on the single screen according to the created display selection information; and

a notification unit (V, H switch) which for each of the plurality of signal sources, notifies that signal source of the created display selection information,

wherein the plurality of signal sources are separate apparatuses (see abstract).

Regarding claims 11-12, 15-18, Beaudin et al. discloses the selection information is changed, the notification unit is performed synchronously with change changed number on the network changed size as discussed above.

Regarding claim 27, Beaudin et al. discloses in figs 1 and 5, a display control system for controlling a display to display, on a single screen (50), a plurality of pictures, which are from a respective plurality of signal sources (12, 20) connected to signals lines, wherein the plurality of pictures (current, old, tissue, flow) are displayed in a respective plurality of display windows (50A-50D) on the screen (50), the system comprising a display control device (34) that includes:

an attributes information memory (16), which stores display attributes information for each of the plurality of display windows (50A-50D);

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an obtaining unit (16), which obtains identification signals (grayscale) relating to the plurality of pictures from the plurality of signal sources (12, 20).

a display selection (28) information creating unit, which creates display selection information based on the obtained identification signals;

a display selection unit (22) which appropriates each of the plurality of pictures to a respectively corresponding one of the plurality of display windows according to the created display selection information; and

a notification unit (V, H switch), which for each of the plurality of signal sources, notifies the signal source of the stored display attributes information and the created display selection information (28),

wherein each of the plurality of signal sources comprises a transmitting unit, which transmits a signal corresponding to a display window, based on the display attributes information and the display selection information notified by the notification unit, and

wherein the plurality of signal sources (12, 20) are separate apparatuses (see abstract).

Regarding claim 28, Beaudin et al. discloses further in figs. 1, 4 and 5, wherein the transmitting unit suppresses an amount of information of the picture signals (see compress image stored, see col. 5, lines 59-67), based on the display attributes information and the display selection information notified by the notification unit, and transmits the signal, whose amount of information has been suppressed (see col. 5, lines 59-67, see fig. 1).

Regarding claim 29, Beaudin et al. discloses in figs. 1, 4-5, a display control method of a display control device, for controlling a display to display, on a single screen (50), a plurality of pictures, which are from a respective plurality of signal sources (12, 200 connected to signal lines, wherein the plurality of pictures are displayed in a respective plurality of display windows (50A-50D) on the single screen (50), the method comprising the steps of:

(a) at the display control device (34)

(1) storing display attributes information (see grayscale, see col. 5, lines 28-32);

(2) obtaining identification signal (each windows having own pictures) relating the plurality of pictures from the plurality of signals source.

(3) creating display selection information (28) based on the obtained identification information;

(4) appropriating each of the plurality of pictures to a respectively corresponding one of the plurality of display windows according to the created display selection information (each pictures having own windows, fig. 5), and

(5) for each of the plurality of signal sources (12, 20), notifying that signals source of the stored display attributes information and the created display selection information, and

(b) at each of the plurality of signal sources: (12, 20)

transmitting a signal corresponding to a display window, based on the display attributes information and the display selection information notified in the notifying step,

wherein the plurality of signal sources (12, 20) are separate apparatus (see abstract, see col. 6, lines 16-19).

Regarding claim 30, Beaudin et al. discloses in figs. 1 and 4-5, a computer-readable recording medium storing a program for implementing a method of a display control device, for controlling to display, on a single screen, a plurality of pictures, which are from a respective plurality of signal source connected to signal lines, wherein the plurality of pictures are displayed in a respective plurality of display windows on the screen, the program comprising:

code for a storage (16, fig. 1) step of storing display attributes in formation for each of the plurality of display windows (50A-50D, fig. 5);

code for an obtaining step (28) of obtaining identification signals relating to the plurality of picture signal from the plurality of signal sources;

code for a creating (34, fig. 4) step of creating display selection information based on the obtained identification information;

code for appropriating step (18) of appropriating each of the plurality of pictures to a respectively corresponding one of the plurality of display windows according on eof thplurality of signal sources, notifying that signal source of the stored display attributes in formation and the created display selection information,

wherein the plurality of signal sources are separate apparatuses (see abstract, see col. 6, lines 16-19).

Response To Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-30 filed on 1/3/06 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection as discussed above.

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Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimnhung Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-7698. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI, FROM 8:30 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Edouard can be reached on 571-272-7603 . The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kimnhung Nguyen
March 2, 2006



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER